

CONFIDENTIAL 50X1-HUM

CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET-CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY~~COUNTRY Soviet zone of Germany REPORTTOPIC Military Information from Oranienburg

EVALUATION

DATE OF CONTENT

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DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 15 March 1950

REFERENCES

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. a. ✓ Kaserne on Bernauer Allee:

(1) Heavily occupied on 30 December 1949. Officers and EM wearing tank, artillery, infantry and signal insignia were observed.

(2) Seventeen to eighteen-year-old troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets and an officer wearing tank insignia were observed in field training.

(3) Two T34 tanks were firing with live ammunition on the target range.

(4) Although there were many officers and EM wearing crossed-gun-barrel insignia on their epaulets, no artillery units were observed.

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b. Airfield:

(1) Some of the airfield quarters were occupied by Soviet Army units with red-bordered black epaulets on 10 January 1950. Eight groups, each with 15 to 20 eighteen to twenty-year-old soldiers, were observed marching from the airfield quarters to the Oranienburg Canal and holding close-order drill practices there.

(2) Trucks and passenger car were parked in front of the quarters occupied

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Document No.
No Change in Class. ☐
☒ Declassified
Class. Changed To: TS/S
Auth.: HR 70-2
Date: 23 June 2008

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.

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by soviet army troops.

2. A tank unit was quartered at the airfield on 17 January 1950. Most of the kaserne buildings were occupied.

Two T 34 tanks were seen to enter through the kaserne gate.

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3. a. Weisse Stadt (former Heinkel settlement) on Berliner Chaussee, north of the Oranienburg-Kremmen (N 53/Z 57) rail-road line:

Nine buildings were each occupied to capacity by about 250 troops (red-bordered black epaulets) and three buildings by soviet Air Force troops on 1 February 1950. The troops had moved from the Oranienburg Castle to the settlement in mid-December 1949.

- b. Oranienburg Castle:

Occupied to capacity by 900 troops, allegedly the Oranienburg military post headquarters, on 1 February 1950. The headquarters had moved there in mid-December 1949 from the former concentration camp.

Trucks [] were observed there.

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- c. Former Kaiser Werke on Sachsenhausenerstrasse:

Three administration buildings of the plant were occupied by about 1,500 troops wearing artillery insignia on 1 February 1950.

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- d. Former Milchwirtschaftliches Institut (dairy institute) on Sachsenhausenerstrasse:

Allegedly a ration supply depot.

- e. MVD quarters on Adstrasse, corner of Schuetzenstrasse:

Occupied by 30 to 50 men on 2 February 1950.

Trucks [] were parked in front of the building.

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- f. Former concentration camp:

(1) Occupied by 3,500 to 4,000 troops with allegedly three hundred T34/85 tanks. Troops wearing tank and artillery insignia were seen.

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(2) A section of 12 soldiers with a 100-mm mortar was observed to enter the camp.

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(4) [redacted] the arrival in the camp of 12 new 100-mm AT guns on 24 January 1950.

[redacted] some of the troops previously stationed in the camp had not returned upon completion of maneuvers. 50X1-HUM

g. Former Klinker Werke north of the lock of Hohenzollern canal:

occupied by a railroad engineer unit of about 150 men on 2 February 1950. The unit controls the construction of the single-track railroad line from Oranienburg to Buch (" 53/ 4 96). 50X1-HUM

comment:

a. Most of the component units of the 25th Tank Div (Cadre) are assumed to be stationed in Oranienburg. Other elements of the division (at least one tank regiment) are stationed in Prenzlau. 50X1-HUM

[redacted] some small component units of the division may have been located in the Finow area since the Fall of 1949. This assumption may be vaguely corroborated [redacted] some troops, allegedly stationed in the Sachsenhausen concentration camp before the maneuvers, did not return to their quarters upon completion of the maneuvers. 50X1-HUM

b. The Oranienburg Castle is presumably occupied by the Hq 25th Tank Div (Cadre) which was confirmed in Oranienburg up to 6 February 1950 (reports on rail shipping operations) 50X1-HUM

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